

# THE RIO NEWS.

PUBLISHED ON THE 5th, 15th AND 24th OF EVERY MONTH.

VOL. XII.

RIO DE JANEIRO, MAY 24TH, 1885

NUMBER 15

## OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

AMERICAN LEGATION.—157, Rua das Laranjeiras, THOMAS A. OSBORN, Minister.  
BRITISH LEGATION.—No. 21, Marquês d'Albuquerque, RICHARD G. TOWNLEY, Acting Chargé d'Affaires.  
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BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 8, Travessa de D. Manoel, GEORGE THORNE RICKETTS, Consul General.

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N. B.—All notices should be sent to the Clerk.

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157, Rua das Laranjeiras.

ALBERT ALLEN, Clerk.

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BIBLIOTHECA FLUMINENSE.—No. 62, Rua do Ouvidor.  
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Dr. Alexandre Calaza—Surgeon and Physician.—Office, Rua Plácido de Margo No. 22. From 1 to 3 p. m. Residence, Rua de S. Francisco Xavier No. 47.

Dr. W. J. Fairbairn; M. D. Edm.; Surgeon and Physician. Office: Rua 1ª de Março, No. 49, from 11 to 1 p. m. and 4 to 6 p. m. Residence: Rua D. Carlota, Botafogo, Med. Director of Equitable Life Ins. Co. of N. York.

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# THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY  
for the mail packets of the 5th, 15th and 25th  
of the month.

A. J. LAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs  
list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the com-  
mercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock  
quotations and sales, a table of freights and charters, and all  
other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian  
trade.

(Cash invariably in advance)

Subscription: 20\$000 per annum for Brazil,  
\$10.00 or £2 for abroad.

SINGLE COPIES: 600 reis; for sale at the office  
of publication, or at the English Book Store, No. 67 Rua do  
Ovidio.

All subscriptions should run with the calendar year.

EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICE: —  
79, Rua Sete de Setembro.

Subscription and advertisement accounts will be received by  
GEORGE H. PHELPS, Esq.,  
154 Nassau Street,  
NEW YORK.

Messrs. JOHN MILLER & Co.,  
São Paulo and Santos.

RIO DE JANEIRO, MAY 24th, 1885.

THE Parliamentary proceedings have not been of great interest since our last issue. The extra session was closed and the 19th ordinary session opened on the 20th. When the Chamber elected its officers on the 21st. Deputy Franklin Doria was elected president by a very close vote; 50 deputies voting for him, 43 for Deputy Andrade Figueira and 7 blank votes were cast. This seems a proof that difficulties may at any time arise and that the position of the Saraiva Cabinet is very far from secure. It is our sincere hope that those Deputies who supported the Dantas Cabinet will not follow the tactics of their late opponents, but will lend all their efforts to the transaction of business and relieve their country from the feeling of distrust and uneasiness that has already been of excessive duration. The following is the Speech from the Throne.

AUGUST AND MOST WORTHY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATION:

The meeting of the General Assembly, as it awakens the most wellfounded hopes, is to me always a source of the most heartfelt pleasure.

My much beloved and dearly prized daughter the Princess Imperial and the Conde d'Eu, my much beloved and dearly prized son-in-law, have returned in safety from their voyage to some of the Southern provinces.

There has been no breach of the public peace during the term of the extraordinary session; and the relations between the Empire and other countries continue unchanged.

The sanitary condition of the Empire remains satisfactory, the only cause for regret being the occurrence of a few fatal cases of yellow fever in this metropolis, and lately at Bahia.

The state of our finances, aggravated as it is by the remarkable decrease of the public revenue during the present financial year, demands your special attention. It is desirable that you should decree efficient measures for securing the equilibrium between the Revenue and Expenditure of the State.

The gradual extinction of slavery, which was the special object of the extraordinary session, should continue to merit the greatest solicitude on your part. This question, which is bound up with the deepest interests of Brazil, demands a settlement which shall tranquillise our agricultural classes. I commit it, therefore, to your wisdom and patriotism.

There are sundry government proposals awaiting your decision, which you will examine; giving the preference to those

that satisfy important State interests without adding to the public expenditure, which it is no longer possible to increase.

AUGUST AND MOST WORTHY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATION.

I trust that the present session of the General Assembly will be fruitful in benefits to our country.

The extraordinary session is hereby closed, and the 1st session of the 19th Legislature declared open.

THE Speech from the Throne with which H. M. the Emperor closed the extra, and opened the ordinary, legislative session is a fine piece of irony. H. M. says that during the extra-session the public peace was not disturbed, but Deputy A. de Siqueira was of so distinctly an opposite opinion that he forced the Dantas cabinet to resign office on this very question of public peace. The gradual extinction of slavery in the Empire is noted. Gradual enough it will be, by the Saraiva, or Fleury, project; death and the Emancipation fund will doubtless bring about the total extinction of slavery at their leisure, and to their beneficent influences the question is to be left. That the Imperial Princess and H. H. the Conde d'Eu have returned safely from their voyage to the wilds of Rio Grande do Sul is doubtless a subject for congratulation, but this paragraph in the Speech looks very like what penny-a-liners call stuffing. The public expense cannot be increased, says His Majesty, but Sr. Saraiva seems of a contrary opinion, for he proposes to issue bonds to the extent of 6,000,000\$ per annum for the remuneration of slave owners, and the presumption is that these bonds will bear interest and that this is to be met by some increase of public expense. From our point of view the Speech is as clear a reprimand to the August and Most Worthy Representatives of the Nation as could have been given. The Chief of the State could not do very well say: Gentlemen of the Chamber; you have behaved more like a mob of unruly children than like a Parliament. You have been inconsiderate, or even discourteous to me, for you have made no reply to my request that you should express an opinion on the emancipation question. You have wasted precious time, and equally precious money by your bickerings and puerilities. You have done all that you should not have done, and nothing that you should have done. You have shown an inconsistency, or perhaps even worse, in denying your former votes. You have voted *yes*, when you declared you would vote *no*. You have furnished a spectacle to the world, that has profoundly affected all friends of the country; but I hope you see the errors of your past action and having turned out Senator Dantas and called in Senator Saraiva that the ordinary session of the legislature will produce some fruit. His Majesty could not, we say, express this idea in words; but he has nearly approached it, and properly too, we think. The extra-ordinary session of the legislative Chambers of Brazil in the year of grace 1885 is, and we trust always will be, unique. From the very beginning a determination to affront the Crown was manifest, and this determination caused such inconsistencies as would have almost justified a *coup d'etat*. Deputies who approved the emancipation project when presented, voted directly against it: members of committees approving elections were seen to vote against their own reports; a representative of the nation being hooted flies to the Senate for protection, thence to the prime minister, and finally turns out the Cabinet. Taking the whole session together, it would be difficult to imagine a more discreditable picture than the Brazilian Parliament has presented to a wondering public. Ridicule is useless, for the matter is too serious for

this. The obstructionists of the Chamber would, elsewhere, have a serious account to settle with their constituents. Here, as the members of the legislature are merely nominal representatives of the nation, they are not responsible. To conclude; as the Chambers have decided that Sr. Saraiva is the only Saviour and H. M. the Emperor has accepted this decision, we beg for our part that something he now decided, anything, we might say. The political history of Brazil from the down-fall of the Conservatives up to the present moment is worse than a blank; it shows a series of unfortunate experiments in finance, in economy, in politics, in everything. The cause of surprise to us is that the Crown has not ere this called upon the Conservative party and declared to that now in power; Your incapacity is so transparent that I will have nothing more to do with you!

We have not sufficient presumption to claim, that through our remarks the local press is showing more attention to the matter of statistics, but heartily rejoice that our colleagues are at last recognizing the necessity of tables, and give due honour to our *doyen*, the *Jornal do Commercio*, for those published on the 20th. From these tables copious extracts are made in another column, and as they show in a condensed form the financial movement of the Empire during the last decade, we venture to believe they will prove of interest. A study of these long lines of figures is not very entertaining and is moreover a cause for that criticism, which we are charged of using to excess. While the foreign debt shows a reduction of £1,500,000, the internal funded debt has increased 120,000,000\$ and paper money 38,000,000\$. The deposits, which are virtually in the same case as those made in banks and may be called for at any moment, are also a disquieting feature in the tables. On December 31st 1884, the Treasury owed the following sums as deposits:

Estates of dead and absent persons...	2,162,889\$
Loans from the Orphans' fund.....	15,805,733
" " private individuals.....	700,000
Deposits, Savings banks.....	18,848,946
" " the Government pawn- broking establishment.....	759,147
" " from sundry sources.....	10,907,837
	49,184,555\$

An enormous sum, and when 46,548,500\$ in treasury bills are added thereto the total becomes startling. It is further to be noted that the annual charge upon the revenue by guarantees of interest is not contemplated, and this item alone will be an important element in all future budget estimates. The publication of these tables is unquestionably a step in the right direction and whether this publication is suggested, or not, by the government, it shows an inclination to abolish the old regime of secrecy, and towards that publicity which is absolutely necessary where the financial position of a State is in question. That the financial position of the Empire is, if not critical at least, somewhat embarrassed no one, in view of the figures published can for a moment deny. And H. M. the Emperor has recognized in the Speech from the Throne the necessity of treating of the question. What, however, is to be done? The promises and declarations, that economy in and rigid vigilance over the public revenue, must be guaranteed; and rightly guaranteed, for they are not regarded. Minister after minister has translated retrenchment into new taxes. Where can one see any signs of an earnest effort towards strict economy in the administrative branch of the government? The legislature has clearly shown its disregard for it by wasting we do not know how many *contos de reis* in a session during which nothing was done. A minister must be

turned out, a Deputy hissed in the street must occupy a day at 50\$ per colleague and no one raises a voice to protest against the injustice to the unfortunate class of taxpayers. We have no intention of alarming the public, but some stop must be put to the constant demands upon the dwellers in cities. Sr. Saraiva in presenting his ministry alluded to sacrifices, and his emancipation project very quietly puts all these sacrifices upon commerce and trade. Why is the planting interest to be for ever fostered at the expense of every other interest of the country? Simply because commerce and trade are represented by foreigners, while agriculture with its parasites is of native production. This cannot continue *ad infinitum*. Every resident in Brazil, we undertake to declare, is ready to submit to sacrifices; but these sacrifices must be of some practical and visible service. We have a most decided objection to sacrifices, of which the result is quietly paid into the pockets of a class, who are notoriously improvident, stubborn and utterly opposed to any improvements that may not directly lead to their sole and entire profit. We charge that this eternal contemplation of the planting interest is the direct cause of the financial difficulties of the Empire. Railways were built regardless of expense, that produce might reach the sea board; central sugar factories have dividends guaranteed that the planter may have a market for his cane, the price of which is paid by the tax-payer; export duties are reduced 2 per cent. and import duties increased 10 per cent. and finally comes the salvation project of the Saraiva ministry, with its clause, that all duties and taxes, *except those on exports*, are to be increased 5 per cent. that planters may receive remuneration for their slaves. It is not very far short of scandalous, this constant bleeding of commerce and trade for the benefit of agriculture, and a day of reckoning will undoubtedly come.

## ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.

The message, or more properly the speech, with which the President of the Argentine Confederation opened the legislative session on the 11th inst. offers a great contrast to that with which H. M. the Emperor usually opens our Chambers. While elected administrators are necessarily more diffuse in their communications with the Legislative branch of the government than crowned heads, still the difference need not be so very striking and we will venture to make some extracts from President Roca's speech, and even dare to call H. M. the Emperor's attention to some of the points he touches on.

The financial crisis through which the country is at present passing momentarily disturbs our economical situation, but this trouble will soon pass off, without leaving even a trace behind, because the prosperity of the nation is uncontested; because its commerce and production at the core are sound; and finally because a kind Providence has blessed us with favourable seasons. Every thing favoured the Plate in the last year, and very possibly it is from this very prosperity the present crisis has taken its rise—incurable are human affairs, and it is difficult to maintain a perfect limit in prosperity or in adversity.

Stripped of the implications that a special Providence looks after Argentine interests, and that prosperity causes financial difficulties, would that a Speech from the Throne could contain some similar paragraph to the above! Our prosperity is very contestable; our commerce and production are neither sound at core, nor on the rim, and our financial difficulties seem to aggravate, and to show no signs of passing away, with or without a trace.

The President, while recognizing that both the government and individuals have spent too much money, yet considers, as this was not expended in civil wars, revolutions etc but in improvements, the money is not lost.

A check results, but no retrograde movement. This is the usual excuse of a man—or of a government—that has overestimated his cloth, when cutting his coat, and the argument is familiar enough to us here.

Up to the year 1882 the balance of trade was in our favor, but in 1883, although our exports did not fall off, our imports showed an excess of 20 millions over exports. In 1884 imports amounted in 94 millions, while our exports were only 68 millions, showing a balance against us of 26 millions; but if our production has not kept pace with the growth of our imports, neither has it remained stationary. The increased export of 1884 over that of 1883 was \$7,800,000 m/n, or say 13 per cent. and in the first quarter of 1885 our trade showed well, exports reaching 23 millions and imports 19 millions and we have every reason to believe that the trade will continue thus to the end of the year.

Will our new finance minister, Senator Saratá, be able to insert any such paragraph as the above in his *Relatório*, which must shortly be presented to our Chambers?

The Ways and Means for 1884 were estimated at \$33,770,000 and the revenue for that year amounted to \$37,328,000. If we compare this figure with the returns of the previous year we see that the revenue of 1884 shows an increase of 20 per cent.

Here is the old story of the golden eggs. An increased tariff induced excessive importations, and these produced the flattering increase in duties. This is a familiar feature here also; and its result may be as safely predicted as death, or taxes. The budget provided for an expenditure of \$34,953,000, but there being a balance of \$1,888,768 over and above actual disbursements, the year showed a surplus of \$5,173,285, which however was used in expenses voted, but for which no special fund had been provided. The italics are ours, for the confession is an ingenious one; either the budget is not correctly stated, or extra-ordinary credits, as here, are availed of.

It is as yet impossible to know the exact figures of the revenue for the first quarter of this year, but the returns of the Custom House alone show an increase of 15 per cent. over the figures of the previous year. The revenue is increasing and the estimates of Ways and Means meet the expenses of the budget.

We heartily hope to see some such words as these in our Finance minister's report; but reserve our belief that an estimate for a twelve-month based on a quarter's revenue is decidedly questionable.

The Public Works have occasioned an outlay of 22 millions which has been met by the proceeds of loans and by funds raised in and out of the country by credit operations, which have not involved the Treasury, nor left any losses.

The distinction between loans and credit operations seems unnecessary, but as the Public Works have caused neither loss to, nor burdens on, the Treasury, it may be forgiven.

In the beginning of the year 1881 the country had 2,394 kilometres of railway working, and it now has 4,128, with 1,978 kilometres in construction that will certainly be finished at the end of 1886; and the Republic will then have 6,400 kilometres at a cost of about 120 millions of hard dollars.

Immigration continues to increase owing to the advantages our country offers. Last year in spite of the perturbation caused by cholera in Europe, and our being forced to close our ports to ships from infected places, 81,541 immigrants arrived here. The Government plan of colonization is being carried out. As for the provincial colonies, they are all prospering rapidly; and the high price of land in Santa Fé and Entre Rios shows the increase of settlements in those parts. It will be necessary to persevere in this direction, and endow the colonies with ports and high roads to facilitate the export of their produce. This will cost something but it will be repaid in a short time by the progress of those localities, where such works are carried out.

Finally, regulations have been issued for the Act granting small lots of land free to citizens of the Republic and naturalized foreigners, who accept the obligation of settling on the lands in person.

With a liberal discount for that patriotism, which always seeks to exalt one's country in the eyes of the world, the speech made by

President Roca seems manly and straight forward, and as such we commend it to the attention of our executive and legislative powers, present and future. The progress of the Argentine Republic is unquestionable and Brazil will require to strain every nerve, —we do not say to exceed this progress but even—to keep pace with her neighbour.

Continued.

#### BRASILIAN IMMIGRATION.

III.

I beg to correct a very serious error about freights, after which, with your kind permission, I will conclude the little I have to say; then mention in my illustrations as inaccurately as may be, beneath your Saturday Review—our slaves.

It should have been 400 reis and not 900 reis, for the transport of a box containing 25 kilos, of vegetables by the D. Pedro II railway. The distance from the station of Porto Novo da Cunha to the capital is 262 kilometres, therefore basing on your article "Railway Freights" the cost would not pass 148 per 1,000 kilos, or 350 reis each box.

Based, according to the new tariff of the Carangola railway: "Tabela No. 7, alimenticios goods, including eggs, fruit, milk, vegetables, bowls, etc." for each 10 kilogrammes exceeding 60 kilos. 0.25 real each kilometre, say 164 reis each box.

N. B. The Carangola railway runs from the city of Campos nearly north to the province of Espirito Santo. The freights are cheaper than on the D. Pedro II; it is to fair to add that this new table is simply an experiment, but it successfully will probably be copied by the others.

A single family ought not to come as I propose unless they can command a capital of £500, but two or three might do so on less, say £300 each; because the title deeds of the property will be handed over on the receipt of one third of the price; the rest can be paid in one and two years. £50 is all that need be spent on a temporary house and sheds.

This would leave a good balance for stock and labor hire, 20 per day, till the land begins to pay its own expenses. It must be remembered however, that cash in hand is every thing, as money is difficult to borrow and even then at enormous interest, i. e. from 10 to 25 per cent.

With common care and at little expense 5,000 young coffee or cacao trees, good for 20 years, could be planted, which in four years would be worth 300 reis each; the property could then be rented for £120 a year. This would be a good interest on the capital invested, and should the owner wish to sell he could find a purchaser of the property for £1,200, so that if he could only manage to live out of it in the meantime he would not have done a bad business. A nice house building by degrees would greatly increase the value. On each land there is timber enough of the finest quality for all the wood work; the walls might be of solidly built in brick, or stone work.

The Swiss cottage style is very pretty and suits the scenery. Having all material at hand £200 would build a house that might pass muster as a gentleman's cottage in England.

That small farming and stock rearing would pay exceedingly, is well known to the *fazendeiros*. That is the reason they will neither sell nor rent part of their lands; they require all the free labor they can get to help them to cultivate; where they can not, they prefer acting the dog in the manger even at pecuniary loss to themselves. This conversation occurred nearly *verbatim* last month:

"Why not rent your land, if, as you admit, it would be more profitable?"

"Because the tenants would be independent and plant other crops instead of sugar."

"Suppose they agreed only to plant cane?"

"They might sell the cane to another planter who would pay them better."

"If they did, would not the rent compensate you?"

"I will not have a person living on my land, that does not do as I choose."

This is without exception the general idea.

Fortunately there are estates enough in the market, that can be cut up in lots, besides the particular one mentioned.

There are a good many Portuguese immigrants, who would prefer to work for foreigners, as they can not stand the treatment of the managers accustomed to slave labor; several of these having scraped together a few milreis as gardeners, etc. near the capital, are now proprietors; hard working men, but sadly wanting in enterprise, following generally the routine of the planters, they have misplaced; coming out as simple laborers from country districts, few can read or write, or have any idea of carrying out an original plan.

Breeding pigs would be very lucrative and like poultry raising requires very little money to begin with. While with regard to planting, after a sufficient plant of cereals for the use of the farm is

attended to, perhaps bananas, cotton and tobacco would give the quickest results. Cacao, tea and coffee increase immensely the value of the property, but the planter on limited means wants something to depend upon in the mean time.

A first rate cabinet-maker setting up a machine shop worked by water-power would soon make his fortune, as most valuable timber, such as rose-wood, mahogany, etc., is still to be found. He could combine another profitable business, staves for sugar barrels, as there is great talk among the sugar planters of substituting casks for bags, many having already done so.

He would be a convenient neighbour to other capitalists, as nice furniture goes some way to recommending a man to a hard lot.

A large cotton factory has just been established in the city of Campos; the owners are ready to purchase any quantity of cotton either in seed or already ginned.

The cotton plant takes less than a year from seed to maturity and will grow on any kind of land; the picking is suited to women and children.

Grapes grow well and are found in all little cultivated plots among the mountains, associated with peaches and oranges.

Banana trees give from 60 to 100 lbs. of fruit 10 months from planting, giving less trouble than any other product; when boiled down with sugar into a sort of jam and sent to Rio in boxes of 4 or 5 lbs. weight, it might to give a good profit; but tobacco cultivated by a thoroughly practical person would pay perhaps as well as any thing.

A remission of families would enable each one to procure fresh beef and fresh bread daily without which English people would never be satisfied; to make bread for one family only, is a nuisance; while to slaughter a halibut even weekly would not pay. A man ought not to be obliged to eat *cachaça*, unless he has committed some crime, and neither biscuits nor corn cakes are decent substitutes for bread.

Cacao is grown abundantly in the neighborhood of Campos. In this city (Campos) are from 20 to 30 green grocers, i. e. shops only selling vegetables, fire-wood and charcoal; each shop to-day has at least 40 or 50 cacao fruit selling 3 for about 1*l*. The pulpy matter is sucked as fruit; so far as I know, all the seed is wasted. I have by me now a cigar box full of cacao seeds thrown away by the servants during the last three days.

I quite agree with the opinion expressed in this paper about total want of energy in the natives, and think this will almost equal the story of the wheat being thrown away at Campinas.

I think the wheat not being tried arose more from the determination on the part of the land proprietors to allow nothing to be grown in the country, that might even lead indirectly to the independence of their tenants. I know this is their *first* resolution, and a resolution they will stick to. However every dog has its day, and they have barked long enough. (\*)

W. J. L.

Goets de Natúrio, May 19th

#### EMMANIPATION FUND.

The *Jornal do Commercio* yesterday published the following article in its local notes (*Gazetilha*):

For account of the 4th and 5th distributions of the Emancipation fund, there have just been freed, in the capital of the province of Bahia, 127 slaves at a cost of 50,270\$, including the savings of the freedmen to the extent of 12,510\$400. Average cost of each freedman, without fractions, 395\$. Beyond the amount of savings, it seems, that the Fund has only contributed to these emancipations the sum of 297\$ *per capita*. On few occasions have we registered emancipations, by the Emancipation fund, at so low a price, and this fact is more worthy of observation, because there is not a single slave aged 60 or more years, among these freedmen. The 127 freedmen are 32 men and 95 women, and as to age: 16 are under 20 years; 40 under 30; 41 under 40; 28 under 50 years and 2 under 60. Of these freedmen, 8 are married, 4 of whom to free women. Of the 95 female slaves, 35 have free-born children, so born under the law of 28th September 1871. The result is as honorable to the masters, who have shown liberality, as to the authorities who have had to do with the freedom of the slaves.

It is useful to note such occurrences, for a few days ago we had the annoyance of registering the freeing of slaves aged 67 and 68 years for 300\$ and 400\$. It is proven, by the noble example of the capital of Bahia, what we then submitted: It is not fair that some should enrich themselves through the Emancipation fund, when others cheerfully contribute, that the official emancipations may contemplate the greatest number of slaves. Regarding this, the honorable Dr. A. Verissimo de Mattos has sent us the following communication, which we publish without remarks. "In despatches dated 17th April and 7th May 1884, I advised the ministry of

agriculture that 147 slaves had been emancipated by the fourth contribution of the Fund to the Neutral Municipality, the average being 366\$ for each, without fractions. In a despatch of March 31st of the present year, I advised the same minister, that by the fifth contribution, 91 registered slaves had been freed at an average price of 383\$56. Not one paper of this capital referred to this result; the *Diário do Brasil* alone criticized the first free-dom, censuring the *procurador dos feitos* (government attorney) for having obtained emancipations at so low a price. Rio, May 18th, 1885. A. Verissimo de Mattos. "Procurador dos Feitos." N. B. The greater part of the emancipations in 1884 were secured without legal recourse; in 1885, all were.

#### RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

Standard

—It may interest many of our readers to know that the estancia properties of the late Dr. Nicolas Anchorena amount in the liquidation of the "testamentaria" to 190 millions m/c, perhaps the largest ever known in this country. Besides estancia properties deceased also held large amounts in Stock, cedulas, and city houses.

—The immigration returns for the first quarter of the year show as follows:—

1st quarter 1885.	
Steamers.....	185
" 1884.....	167
Immigrants 1885.....	46,415
" 1884.....	25,599
Passengers 1885.....	9,889
" 1884.....	8,524

Thus all along the line this year's quarter shows a splendid growth over that of last year. With such facts we may laugh at the momentary premium on gold, or depreciation of our paper money. The country grows in spite of everything.

—The returns of the Rosario Custom House last month amounted to \$332,169 m/n, as follows:—

Import duties....	\$310,734.36 m/n
Export duties....	21,434.65
Total.....	\$332,169.01

The trade of the month was distributed as follows:—

Imports.	Exports.
Subject to duty....	\$963,445
Free of duty.....	107,153
	\$1,070,598
	984,143

The figures of the total trade of the month were:—

Imports.....	\$1,070,598
Exports.....	984,143
Transit to Bolivia.....	330,876
Total.....	\$2,385,617

If we look back thirty years, we find that the total annual trade of Rosario in 1854 did not amount to much more than the above figures for the month of April. The figures of trade which in 1854 stood at \$3,800,000, now average 40 millions per annum. Few towns can afford a parallel.

—The returns of the Custom House for last month amounted to \$1,946,193 m/n. The returns for the same month of previous years were:—

April 1882.....	1,529,589 m/n
" 83.....	1,745,232
" 84.....	1,782,948
" 85.....	1,946,193

Taking the depreciation of paper into consideration, the returns of last month amounted to \$1,362,000 m/n gold, under the figure of 1882 and slightly above the April return of 1881. This shrinkage in the revenue of the Custom House is inevitable and must assume larger proportions. The following figures of the Custom House returns for the four first months of the present year and six previous years will be found interesting:—

Four months of 1879....	\$4,812,000 m/n
" 80....	4,993,000
" 81....	5,428,000
" 82....	5,980,000
" 83....	6,475,000
" 84....	7,383,000
" 85....	8,079,000

Reducing the figures of 1885 to gold, the returns of the last four months amount to \$5,650,000 m/n.

The Government can glean an excellent lesson from these figures. The revenue is going back to the figures of 1881, and the Government must be prepared to reduce the Budget to the small figures of that year. The revenue of 1881 amounted to 21,346,000 m/n—not much over half the figures of the present Budget of 1885, which amounts to no less than 40 millions. The policy of the Finance Minister must necessarily be one of retrenchment all over the line.

(\*) I mean no disrespect to the slave-holders, the allusion is allegorical, shepherd dogs, entrusted by Providence with the care of the black sheep.—W. J. L.

The British Minister, Hon. E. Monson, presented his letter of recall to the President and sailed for Europe on the 8th inst. in the *Muskelbyne*, being promoted to Copenhagen.

The opening of the section of the Buenos Aires and Rosario Railway to Baradero is another important event of the fortnight. The works of this railway, are pushing ahead so very fast that before the end of the year we expect the road will be near Rosario. Baradero is a rich and populous district, and well able to support a railway. Some of our richest sheepfarmers are in that district, and in fact all along the route of the Rosario Railway the country is thickly stocked and settled. Of all the numerous railway works going on at present in the Plate, the Rosario works are progressing the fastest, doubtless owing much to the great conveniences for materials etc. The National Government has just ordered the opening of the railway from Mendoza to San Juan, which is another great step, and very soon we believe the Government will order the opening of the Tucuman Railway to Metan. But, for the present, owing to the monetary crisis, these railway works will not be further extended, which we consider a very wise step on the part of the Government.

#### MORE TAXES.

Gazeta de Noticias and May.

The *Folha Nova*, with the intention of facilitating an understanding of the system employed in Sr. Saraiva's emancipation project for freeing slave-owners, published a few days ago an article, in which the best wishes and an enormous effort, could not reduce under 49,225,000\$ the amount to be collected from the mass of the people, with an almost total exemption of that part which is most directly interested. Even were this calculation strictly correct, and made with less partiality, from it might be deduced unfavourable conclusions as to the project with which we are threatened. It happens, however, that some premises are false, and through this fact, the burden will much exceed the estimate. Disregarding the very incorrect point upon which the project is based—namely, that those who are to enjoy its benefits will neither contribute, nor suffer, and that the hateful and vexatious load will fall upon such as support themselves by their own efforts and savings—let us analyze, by official figures, the economic monstrosity that it is intended to consummate.

The slaves in the Empire are:

From 14 to 20 years old.....	323,868
21 to 39 do.....	497,725
40 to 59 do.....	267,487

1,089,080

Estimating these at the prices fixed in the project, we have:

Up to 20 years.....	323,868,000\$
40 do (average).....	348,497,500
60 do ( " ).....	80,246,000

752,611,500\$

Deducting 25 per cent. on one half of this sum, to admit that there are an equal number of male and female slaves, or say 94,065,200\$. To meet this indemnity the whole population of the Empire must, according to our article of the 16th inst., contribute as follows:

Slave-owners.....	4,115,325\$
Those who have nothing to lose.....	654,341,975

It becomes necessary to mark a point before commencing fresh arguments. Slave property is almost completely valueless, thanks to the *prophanda*; the very Bank of Brazil does not estimate it, and only counts, in the last report, upon the guarantees represented by land, utensils and live stock, not by men. To-day by an erroneous fiction, of impossible execution and above all unjust, the government may create a capital of nearly 753,000,000\$, to crush a poverty-stricken population, which does not exist at the cost of others' labor, and only for the benefit of the few, who more or less, have earned money by slave-labor to the extent of double or treble the capital employed.

For good, or for evil, there is employed in this human merchandise an amount of capital which is completely lost, and which represents no more value than a carbonized treasury note. What remains, is to know who is to suffer the consequences of this fatal disappearance of a large part of private fortunes. If a merchant, or a commercial market, enters upon a legitimate commercial speculation, with considerable probabilities of profit, but unfortunately makes a loss, it seems to us that no one would think of creating new taxes to be paid by the whole nation, that these merchants, who through carelessness or want of observation allowed themselves to be deceived, should be re-established in their former state of prosperity, at the cost of those, who before, and always, led a laborious and ill-rewarded life. Did anyone propose in favor of merchants such a measure, he would at once be

called a bad politician, or even an anarchist; how then can we accept, without protest, the threat of new taxes, directly or indirectly for the protection of slave-owners, who moreover do not ask for them but would be content with a fixed period? The Cabinet asserts that it is not possible to incur further expenses; the Speech from the Throne declares that the revenue is diminishing; and while these facts are recognized and published by the high powers of the State, exactly this occasion is by them availed of to cast upon the impoverished country an *onus* of 752,521,600\$. It is clear that a country may suffer present privations, or even incur debt, to the end of securing future benefits; but search as we may, we can find no advantage to the people in this sacrifice, for capital and ample credit were enjoyed by the present rural proprietors, without the possibility of their avoiding the mortgaging of nearly all their estates, besides which many of these are reduced to a miserable state as to cultivation. The projected financial measure, beyond its great injustice and unacceptableness, is almost impossible of execution, because of the precarious state of the national economy.

#### QUIXADA.

Our readers may remember that we expressed a disbelief in the result of the Quixadá, province of Ceará, irrigation works, and this disbelief becomes more and more confirmed as the local press touch upon the question. We extract from the *Gazeta de Noticias* the following:

For some time the engineers on the Ceará dam commission have made serious complaints against their appointed chief, Sr. Révy. Complaints against the technical direction of the works; complaints against the administration of the public funds; complaints against the violent and rude (*desaltencioso*) manner with which they are treated by him. Some, if not all, of these complaints are accompanied by vouchers; the Ceará press is constantly shoving up and censuring the mistakes that are made; engineers and other employees, some of whom have families have not received their salaries since the commencement of the year; without resources, without credit, they suffer all privations.

More than once, we applied to Sr. Carneiro da Rocha, asking that he would contemplate this irregular state of affairs. H. Excellency did nothing. We now apply to Sr. Councillor Ferreira de Moura. For every reason H. Excellency should examine this question and promptly decide it. One of the paragraphs in the instructions to engineer Révy ordered him that in no case should he exceed the fixed expense. But this sum has been exceeded, and Sr. Councillor Moura cannot forget already that it is impossible to increase the public expense. On the other hand, those engineers who were appointed by the Government, cannot be deprived irregularly of their salaries, to which they are entitled. We shall again touch upon this subject.

#### THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MOVEMENT OF BRAZIL FROM 1875 TO 1884.

The *Journal do Commercio* of 20th inst. publishes the following figures as organized from *Relatorios* of the department of Finance.

Foreign Debt.	
31 Jan. 1875	£ 19,931,200 at 27 d
31 Oct. 1876	19,093,500 "
31 Dec. 1876	19,037,000 "
31 Oct. 1878	18,036,000 "
31 Mar. 1879	17,806,900 "
31 Mar. 1880	16,996,200 "
30 Sep. 1880	16,206,500 "
31 Dec. 1881	15,870,600 "
31 Dec. 1882	15,002,500 "
31 Dec. 1883	19,036,500 "
31 Dec. 1884	18,419,900 "

163,732,444

#### Internal Debt.

4.5 and 6% Anticipations.	
1875.....	257,672,700\$
1876.....	266,294,700
1877.....	275,029,200
1878.....	297,494,700
1879.....	337,494,700
1880.....	337,507,100
1881.....	337,513,100
1882.....	337,513,500
1883.....	338,119,900
1884.....	338,119,900

163,732,444

Orphan's etc. deposits. Monte do Socorro.	
1875.....	16,812,264\$
1876.....	17,787,661
1877.....	18,471,273
1878.....	18,666,604
1879.....	19,811,192
1880.....	20,459,904
1881.....	20,236,398
1882.....	20,117,274
1883.....	20,125,776
1884.....	18,668,623

Summary, 31st December, 1884.

Foreign Debt.....	221,038,800\$
Funded Internal Debt.....	405,640,400
Floating Debt.....	285,392,063

Total..... 912,071,263\$

We condense the tables for the benefit of our readers.

Against this debt appear the following assets:

Due by Uruguay.....	16,607,295\$
Paraguay.....	256,049
Unpaid taxes.....	12,550,933

Total..... 29,413,387\$

The item of *All other* in the floating debt does not include the guaranteed interest to railways, etc.

The receipts for the fiscal years from 1874-75 to 1882-83 were as follows:

Receipts.	
1874-75.....	9,180,034\$
1875-76.....	9,443,432
1876-77.....	9,381,484
1877-78.....	11,411,612
1878-79.....	13,348,049
1879-80.....	17,093,387
1880-81.....	16,839,417
1881-82.....	18,800,491
1882-83.....	14,381,348

The expenditure has been:

Expenditure.	
1874-75.....	133,252,048\$
1875-76.....	133,441,856
1876-77.....	143,691,511
1877-78.....	161,379,170
1878-79.....	191,153,455
1879-80.....	166,957,238
1880-81.....	152,524,588
1881-82.....	156,749,546
1882-83.....	165,652,707

The import and export figures are also given:

Imports.	
1874-75.....	162,483,500\$
1875-76.....	172,464,484
1876-77.....	153,886,000
1877-78.....	160,946,400
1878-79.....	163,392,700
1879-80.....	172,744,300
1880-81.....	181,005,666
1881-82.....	182,251,691
1882-83.....	185,861,901

Our colleague makes the population of the Empire in 1874-75 9,930,478, of which 1,510,800 were slaves, and estimates it at present to be 12,002,978, of which 1,150,000 are slaves.

#### PROVINCE OF BAHIA.

The province of Bahia seems to be in a very serious position as to its finances. The deficit in 1882-83 of 429,291,871, increased to 648,547,112 for the fiscal year 1883-84.

The annual deficits have been:

1879-80.....	196,746,631
1880-81.....	877,101,057
1881-82.....	990,617,728
1882-83.....	429,291,711
1883-84.....	648,547,112

Total..... 3,142,293,999

The *Journal do Commercio* of the 15th inst., from which we are transcribing, says: "This is an exact copy of the national finances, there being a permanent deficit. With this difference, that while the province of Bahia, with that of Pernambuco, was deprived in 1880-81 of its most important source of revenue (provincial import duties) the general government has increased its taxes. The debt of the

province is 7,724,300\$ funded and 1,250,000\$ floating; besides which it owes the general government the enormous sum of 7,982,825\$849 disbursed by the Treasury up to September 1883; for the satisfaction of the provincial guarantee of 2 per cent. to the Bahia and Alagoas railway. The province had assets of, 414,205\$424 unpaid taxes, of which a part cannot be collected. Beyond this sum appear as assets:

1,000 shares of the Bahia Central railway and the old Parangassil company.....	1,000,000\$000
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------

A bill for which the Nazareth tramway is responsible..... 38,020 873

Shares in the *Aquaria Sant'Anna*..... 30,000 000

Loan to Hugh Wilson, account dated 31st March ulto..... 667,708 485

1,735,729\$358

The province further owns the Santo Amaro railway, 36 kilometres in length, which cost, in consequence of the peculiar (*exceptional*) nature of the ground, the sum of 2,420,000\$. The traffic on this line left a balance for the last year of 6,770\$415, or say about one quarter of one per cent. Among the items of the floating debt is one of 150,000\$ due the National Treasury, and the *Journal* asks very pertinently when, and under what law was this loan made. Altogether it will be seen that the province is seriously embarrassed, and it looks very much as if the example of the general government had been followed with entirely too much precision by the provincial legislature, or administrators.

#### VICTORIA AND NATIVIDADE RAILWAY.

*Folha Nova*, May 19th.

The late minister of agriculture attempted the day before yesterday, in the Chamber of Deputies to justify his action towards the grantees of the Victoria and Natividade railway, by explaining why they were presented with £70,000, to which payment the government was committed by the contract of concession. The explanations were, however, subversive, and only prove that in the matter of concessions, Sr. Carneiro da Rocha understands that the clauses of the respective contracts are valueless, except to the prejudice of the government. The late minister confessed that, after the grantees were asked to present their proposition for the concession, he was informed that they only asked £96,000, and that he had endeavored to learn what was the estimated value of the works; but that he found nothing in the department, except the surveys made by the Engineer Hermillo Alves, according to which the works were estimated at 14,000,000\$. Only then, upon a demand that the grantees should present the surveys which they were instructed to make, did they fulfill their obligation and the estimate of the works was 450,000,000\$. It is difficult to produce a clearer proof, that valid reasons existed to declare the contract lapsed; for as it was signed on June 30th, 1882, these surveys should have been presented, under clause 7 of the concession, within 15 months, that is before September 30th, 1883, but, nevertheless, the very declaration of Sr. Carneiro da Rocha proves that a year later they had not yet appeared in the department of agriculture. It is true that the late minister endeavored to avail of a despatch of November 4th, 1882, when the minister of agriculture ordered the grantees to revise the surveys, which they were obliged to make under the contract, and should survey two other routes, so that the government might decide upon which was preferable; and also he availed of another despatch of January 31st, 1883, which declared that the period marked in clause 7 would not apply to these new surveys. But this is only a subterfuge, for it can not be admitted, that by a mere ministerial despatch clauses approved by decree may be revoked. Now, the contract marking that within 15 months, with the penalty of lapsing, the surveys should be presented to the government, and these could only be based upon those already made by the engineer appointed for this service, it is undeniable that Sr. Carneiro da Rocha was fully justified in declaring lapsed the concession, and this was even his strict duty. Further, as in the contract were repeated clauses of the call for proposals for the concession, it would be indecorous and wrong to modify these by a cabinet despatch. We have had occasion to declare that to save the prestige of the State credit, it might be better not to cancel the concession, but to limit ourselves to an indemnity to the grantees for such expenses as are incurred through the revision of the government surveys, as the contract provides for. But this indemnity could not at a maximum exceed £18,000, because, according to documents which should be in the department of agriculture the expense did not exceed 150,000\$. We are ignorant of the data upon which Sr. Carneiro da Rocha has his estimate of 300,000\$ for expenses incurred by the grantees under their contract. However, admitting that this sum is not exaggerated,



in no manner is his munificence to the company, to which he presented £40,000, justified. A contract can only be considered made and done after the approval of by laws, and the interest guarantee only existing after this made and done, it is as clear as day-light that the grantees had no right to claim possible profits, for they had not even presented the surveys, the approval of which was necessary for legalization of the contract, when invited to make a proposal for the revision of this contract.

Our colleague will permit a few remarks on this subject. The question does not, it seems to us, turn so much upon a clause in the concession, as upon the fact that this railway was granted as a necessary work. We have again and again pointed out, that it is not the business of contractors to examine into the probability of an enterprise giving a revenue. The contractor will fulfill his part of the contract, which is to build so many kilometres of railway, furnish rolling stock, etc., the question of whether the shareholders, or as in this case the Brazilian people, are to receive a dividend does not concern him. Mess. Waring Brothers would unquestionably have built the Nativilale railway, but it appears that ordinary prudence was not observed on the part of the government which granted the concession. Can our colleague frankly declare that Mess. Waring are not entitled to possible profits on the enterprise they undertook? We consider the action of Sr. Carneiro da Rocha in paying these possible profits perfectly correct, for a contract being a contract Mess. Waring might have insisted upon building the road and the government could not have escaped the responsibility assumed. Our colleague is so unopposed to the late premier, that he will not see any good in any one that comes out of Galicia.

## PROVINCIAL NOTES

—The April receipts of the Maranhão custom house were 147,565\$735.

—The Rio Grande do Sul custom houses received in April 533,320\$626.

—The municipal chamber of Taubaté, S. Paulo, telegraphed congratulations to Senator Saraiva. Good for Taubaté!

—The thieves in Manaus, Amazonas, are bold. They went into the chief of police's house and stole 60\$ in money, a revolver and a snuff-box.

—Brazil is undoubtedly an agricultural country. The Paulista papers note a cabbage plant three metres high, and the head is some twenty centimetres in circumference.

—A party in Pernambuco who says he is a lyric, classic, impromptu and synthetic poet wants the provincial assembly to give him a,000\$ to publish his poetry. Much better kill him, and have him embalmed.

—In Barra Mansa, province of Rio de Janeiro, 24 Slaves were freed by the Fund at an average cost of 650\$. Among the new citizens is one over 60 years old who was valued at 500\$. It does not seem a bad price, as things go.

—Up to date there have been freed in the province of Minas Geraes 3,560 slaves at a cost of 3,082,417\$085. To this sum must be added 23,641\$390, cost of books for registering, percentage to employés, etc. The freedmen contributed savings to the extent of 133,020\$727.

—The *Centene* says that Sr. Hildebrando Pompeu has gone as engineer on the Quixadá dam commission, with a salary of 540\$ per month. He was dismissed a *beni do serviço publico* from the post of resident engineer on the Baturité railway for extracting a leaf from the letter book of the railway. If it is true!... *Folha Nova* May 20th.

—A dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, making 7 per cent. for the year is recommended on the preferred shares of the City of Santos Improvements Co. The directors propose that the 7 per cent. preferred share capital shall be increased from £85,000 to £100,000, so as to enable them to pay off the balance of the outstanding debentures, and in the meantime the directors have carried the amount standing to debenture redemption fund on December 31st 1883 (£800) to a special suspense account, as well as the amount of £950, available for the same purpose for 1884. —*Statist*, April 25.

A MEXICAN dispatch says that Mr. David A. Wells's visit to that country has converted him from an opponent to an advocate of the Mexican reciprocity treaty. He finds that sugar is higher in Mexico than in the United States, and that neither the tobacco nor the sugar of Mexico will compete with that grown at home. —*Exchange*.

## RAILROAD NOTES

—The Rio Claro, S. Paulo, railway traffic receipts in March were 43,651\$803, and expenses 20,322\$800.

—O *Pais* of the 14th says, there is a report that the "Juiz de Fora ao Piauí," Minas Geraes, railway will be taken over by an English company.

—The March traffic receipts of the Rio Grande and Bagé railway were 59,637\$750, and expenses 46,115\$650. This company has a guarantee of 7 per cent. on a capital of 13,521,453\$222.

—The North railway has emitted 1,000,000\$ in debentures of 200\$ at 90% *Jo*. The debentures bear 8 per cent. interest and the sinking fund is 4 per cent. The greater part of the loan is allotted. *Jornal do Commercio* 17th May.

—The Natal and Nova Cruz, Rio Grande do Norte, railway traffic receipts in March were 3,428\$280 and expenses 20,606\$500. The line has in traffic 121 kilometres and has a guarantee of 7 per cent. on a capital of 5,996,052\$544. The year before last the railway showed a deficit of 110,719\$570.

—The traffic receipts of the Bahia Central railway for the past year were 439,779\$090, and expenses 385,546\$700. In 1882 there was a deficit of 7,985\$355, and in 1883 a surplus of 26,393\$760. The *Jornal do Commercio*, from which we make these extracts, says that there were 225 kilometres in traffic last year and 288 at present; the last 14 kilometres to complete the road are well advanced. The company has a guarantee of 7 per cent. on a capital of 13,000,000\$.

—The traffic receipts of the Bahia and Minas railway for the last year left a deficit of 85,449\$909; they reached but 89,932\$695, against expenses of 175,382\$640. The road is 142 kilometres in length from the town of Caravelas to the boundary between the provinces of Bahia and Minas Geraes, upon which the former province paid a kilometric subsidy of 9,000\$. From the boundary, it is to be extended to the town of Theophilo Ottoni, in Minas, a distance of 237 kilometres upon which extension this province will pay 9,000\$ per kilometre.

—The *Jornal do Commercio* of the 19th in referring to the Natal and Nova Cruz railway says: "This and other railways, the construction of which was authorized by the law of September 24th, 1873, should not have been built before the probability of a return of 4 per cent. on the capital had been demonstrated, according to the said law. The State expected an annual loss of 3,000,000\$, at the worst, on the sum of 100,000,000\$ to be employed in railways. The indirect profit to be gained would fully compensate for this expense, but the expectation has been disagreeably belied by facts. It has been proved on one side that guaranteed capitals have been exaggerated, and on the other that the supposition of a 4 per cent. revenue was not based upon truthful data. The disappointment has been complete. There are railways, the guaranteed capital of which will demand for many years the total guarantee. Others will give but insignificant sums against the guarantee. An instructive study would be the comparison of actual traffic returns with the estimates of a probable 4 per cent. revenue, upon which according to the law should have been based these concessions. Without even excepting the grantees of these concessions, all now regret them. That however, this regret may not be entirely ineffective, let us deduce from our misfortune the resolution to add no further sum to our already onerous guarantees. This political economy was well proven when in 1882 a moment of giddiness sufficed to sensibly increase the responsibility of the State as to this kind of compromise. Two years later parliament recovering from its delirium authorized the revision of the guarantees. The repentance was tardy and we are already feeling the effects of the wilderness with which we entered upon new responsibilities, with the former staring us in the face."

THE way in which remuneration to labour in England and America is contrasted in America may be gathered from this paragraph:—"Labor in England has gained in wages not more than 11 per cent in 17 years, while labour in the United States has advanced in wages, according to the report of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics, 28.36 per cent since 1860. It appears that the average paid in Great Britain is less than half the admitted average paid to labour in the United States. In Massachusetts, according to Mr. Wright's report, the average in 1883 was \$9.77 weekly, or \$508.04 a year. An admitted decline of 10 per cent. in 1884 would make the average \$457.24. In his recent work on wages, Mr. Atkinson, the free trade economist, estimates the average earnings of all the people in the United States at \$433.62. But Prof. Levi estimates the average for the workers of Great Britain at \$307.80." —*Exchange*.

## LOCAL NOTES

—The Spanish minister presented his credentials on the 16th inst.

—A party has asked for a privilege for a hall on the Campo Sant'Anna.

—Sr. Sully José de Souza for many years Brazilian Consul in Baltimore has been transferred to St. Petersburg.

—The funny man of the *Jornal* is very amusing in his criticisms of the sentimentalism of some of our colleagues in referring to Victor Hugo's death.

—A Danish sailor on a Norwegian vessel in Santos fell into the water. When his body was found, the doctors at once declared that his death was caused by drowning. Nothing like science.

—The *Folha Nova* says that the centenary of the introduction of dahlia into Europe is to be celebrated in Spain. This celebration is just what we have been pining for.

—We have received from the Baldwin Locomotive Works a photograph of the immense engine built for the D. Peiren II railway and expected here by the *Altamirale*.

—The desirability of the adoption of the cable system of street railroads was well expressed by a Chinaman upon witnessing their operation in S. Francisco for the first time. He said: "No pushie; no pullie. Go like a—e all samee."

—No less than forty decrees concerning privileges and patents were declared lapsed on the 23rd, the grantees not having fulfilled their obligations. Can there be any clearer proof of the little care exercised in this concession business?

—We cannot think some of our colleagues are happy in their extracts from M. Victor Hugo's poetry. One says the poet exclaimed "that he would kiss thy feet, France, with eyes full of flames and tears." Would not the latter extinguish the former?

—Senator Lafayette Rulgriges Pereira has been nominated to serve as president of the arbitration committee for examining the claims of various countries against Chili. Sr. Lopes Netto occupied the place, but was excused at his request. The president represents the Emperor.

—While we recognize the loss of Monsieur Victor Hugo to the literary world, we can not recognize any necessity for assuming black bands as some of our colleagues have done. Monsieur Hugo according to English ideas was much less than Thackeray, Dickens, or Wilkie Collins.

—A man-of-war was despatched to sink or destroy a wreck that is endangering navigation on the coast, but the commander has telegraphed that he has not succeeded in his mission and a gunboat will be sent to help the corvette in executing the work. Is there not a story about tailors and a spitter?

—The festive man, who thought he had them, because he saw a luminous match box, would have gone wild over this advertisement: A found man leman man a Sclutation as Water in a lernas as English Famley oply at thes office. We extract this from the *Jornal do Commercio* of the 21st.

—The immigrants, so called, arrived here in April numbered 2,129, of which 899 were Italians, 729 Portuguese etc. Males were 1,660, females 460; over 10 years of age 1,717, under 10 years 412. Of this number 1,294 left for the provinces and of these 549 went to S. Paulo, 398 to Rio Grande do Sul and 256 to Minas Geraes.

—Dr. R. H. Gunning presented 15 shares of the "Brasileira de Navegação" company to the *Licen de Artes e Officinas*. The dividend on these shares is to be employed as will be that on a former donation of 15 Bank of Brazil shares, in furnishing prizes. Dr. Gunning has presented the *Licen* with some 10,000\$ including the last gift.

—The *Jornal do Commercio* of the 24th refers to the Quixadá dam question and says the minister of agriculture has ordered that all work be suspended, save that necessary for the preservation of the material there, and has dismissed the engineer staff. Further that a Treasury employé and an engineer will be appointed to examine the works and study the various complaints made by the engineer-in-chief and his aids.

—The inspector general of Public Works has reported upon the three proposals for the Gas contract. He says the proposal from Messrs. Reis & Co. is the dearest, being only about 5 per cent. less than that of the present Gas company; the Moutinho proposal is the most favourable, it exchange rules low, and that of Briante is the best under ordinary circumstances, but the inspector fears that Briante cannot organize a company, for he was associated with Bustamante in the former proposals, and as our readers know a *fisco* resulted in this case. We see no solution of the question, save by renewing the contract with the present company, who seem to us in the best position to serve the public at the least cost.

—A daily colleague says, a member of the Chamber of Deputies is called *basilão*, because he dresses his hair with castor oil. Funny idea!

—The Paulistas are making an awful fuss over a fire-fly and call it all sorts of names. *Gittanabola* seems to be the Portuguese name; *Fulgura Latamaria*, *Fulgura Gustrissi* and *Fulgura Europaea* are Latin names for the *bicho*, but the probabilities are that this particular insect belong to the second species.

—Amusing reading is the list of articles left in the railway waggons. Six trusses, many bad hats, male and female, a leather bag, open and empty, a sewing machine, a tin box with pieces of sweet-meats, another with two pairs of galloches and an odd pair of children's shoes, etc. The Portuguese for old is *desmoldado*; a good word too.

—Here is what our colleague the *Folha Nova* says to our colleague O *Pais*: "After an amiable and familiar compliment to the late president of S. Paulo, the *Pais* prophesies the ruin of this country, of its institutions and of the monarchy. Were the Emperor a relative of the illustrious editor the language of the organ expressly established to *raise the moral level of the press* would be changed. Yes! because... as another said, there are occurrences more powerful than the law." What is the use of quarrelling?

## DIED

On the 21st inst. on board the R. M. S. *Trent*, off St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, George Alexander Rowbottom, of 32 Eaton Rise, Ealing, near London, aged 42.

## AMAZON STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

We are informed that an application has been signed by a large number of the shareholders of this company, who are residents in this city, for the change from London to Rio of its domicile. Regarding this idea from an economical point of view, the change would seem advisable, but the matter is to depend upon the decision of the shareholders. Dr. R. H. Gunning left for England on the *Markeyne* on the 15th inst. carrying the application, which is of the following tenor, and which as stated above is signed by a large number of shareholders.

Rio de Janeiro, May, 1885.

To the President and Directors of the "Amazon Steam Navigation Company, Limited", London. We, the undersigned shareholders of the "Amazon Steam Navigation Company," in view of the very low price of our shares, and anxious to secure the renewal of our contract with the Government of Brazil, beg to call the attention of the Directors in London to the following points, as necessary to restore confidence, and regain the full value of our stock.

First.—We need a clearer Annual report, giving us, in more detail, the value of our assets, and the mode of so large an expenditure, with a separate report from the Manager at Pará, and a printed list of shareholders, on the model of the Northern Brazilian, and other prosperous packet companies.

Second, and more important, we think it necessary to do away with the expensive and inconvenient Direction in London of the Company's affairs in the Amazons, where all our agents, except one, and all our officers and sailors are Brazilians, and where among the leading merchants, and public men there is such an objection to a subsidy being given to a foreign company.

The great majority of the shares are held by parties in, or connected with, Rio Janeiro, who can only learn about their interests from London, and that only once a year, in the usual meagre report. Shareholders in London would equally be gainers in having the seat in Rio Janeiro, for the better employment and remission of profits. At present, monies are remitted with an immense loss by exchange, instead of only at opportune seasons, known to merchants and bankers.

In Rio Janeiro, the Directors would be fewer, and in constant relations with the management in the Amazons, and the two Governments there, with both of which, the company has contracts, as well as with the Imperial Government.

Above all considerations however of convenience and reduction of expenses, it is certain that our only chance of renewing the contract, is by having the seat of the company in Rio Janeiro, seeing that the present Government has declared, by its president, that it will not renew the contract as it exists.

We therefore recommend strongly to the Directors in London to co-operate with a special committee to be appointed at the approaching Annual meeting (in June), in effecting such changes by all means at present in their power, and to seek new legal powers if necessary. And we authorize Dr. Gunning, or some other shareholder; to represent us, and vote for these views at the next Annual meeting in June.



MAY 16.

BALTIMORE—Amer lug *Spallens*; 403 tons; Myrick; coffee.  
PORT ELIZABETH—Sued by *Baldry*; 400 tons; Frankland;  
do.  
MOULDS—Nor bk *B. C. Rogers*; 900 tons; Fournier;  
SOURABAYA—Nor ship *Progr. Malm*; 579 tons; Jansen; do.  
BARBADOS—Nor bk *India*; 835 tons; Lansen; do.

MAY 18.

FRONTIER DE TABASCO, MEXICO—Nor lug *Schiller*; 435  
tons; Lansen; ballast.  
BARBADOS—Nor bk *Gangway*; 431 tons; Olsen; do.

MAY 19.

BATAVIA—Nor ship *John Hongenstadt*; 1062 tons; David-  
sen; ballast.  
PORT ELIZABETH—Ger bk *Rose*; 309 tons; Geisler; coffee.

MAY 20.

BARBADOS—Nor bk *Euchantress*; 577 tons; McConill; ballast.

MAY 21.

DELAWARE BEHAVIOR—Nor bk *Maria Stenman*; 939  
tons; McLaughlin; ballast.  
BARBADOS—Nor ship *Island*; 1259 tons; Kemble; do.  
—Nor bk *George B. Jones*; 936 tons; Robbins; do.  
—Nor bk *Island*; 684 tons; Long; do.  
HAMBURG—Nor bk *Diana*; 499 tons; Gundersen; coffee.

MAY 22.

APAIACHICHO—Nor bk *Helios*; 594 tons; Elving; ballast.

MAY 23.

APAIACHICHO—Nor bk *Helios*; 594 tons; Elving; ballast.

MAY 24.

APAIACHICHO—Nor bk *Helios*; 594 tons; Elving; ballast.

MAY 25.

APAIACHICHO—Nor bk *Helios*; 594 tons; Elving; ballast.

MAY 26.

APAIACHICHO—Nor bk *Helios*; 594 tons; Elving; ballast.

MAY 27.

APAIACHICHO—Nor bk *Helios*; 594 tons; Elving; ballast.

MAY 28.

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APAIACHICHO—Nor bk *Helios*; 594 tons; Elving; ballast.

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APAIACHICHO—Nor bk *Helios*; 594 tons; Elving; ballast.

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MAY 38.

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MAY 39.

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MAY 58.

APAIACHICHO—Nor bk *Helios*; 594 tons; Elving; ballast.

MAY 59.

APAIACHICHO—Nor bk *Helios*; 594 tons; Elving; ballast.

# FOREIGN SAILING VESSELS IN THE PORT OF RIO DE JANEIRO, MAY 24th, 1885.

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# LATEST LONDON QUOTATIONS OF BRAZILIAN STOCKS AND SHARES. EXTRACTED FROM THE "STATIST" AND "RAILWAY NEWS" OF APRIL 25TH.

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**Insurance.****GUARDIAN FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE CO.**

Agents in Rio de Janeiro

**Smith & Youle.**No. 62, Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março.**THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE**

INSURANCE COMPANY.

Agents in Rio de Janeiro

**Phipps Brothers & Co.**

No. 16, Rua do Visconde de Inhauma.

**LONDON AND LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE Co.**

Agents in Rio de Janeiro

**Watson Ritchie & Co.**

No. 25, Rua de Theophilo Ottoni.

**PHENIX FIRE OFFICE.**

Established 1782

Agent in Rio de Janeiro

**E. W. May,**No. 49, Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março.**HOME AND COLONIAL MARINE INSURANCE Co.**

Agents for the Empire of Brazil

**Norton, Megaw & Co.**No. 82, Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março, Rio de Janeiro.**THE MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.**Capital..... £1,000,000 sterling  
Reserve fund.... £ 410,000 "

Agent in Rio de Janeiro

**E. W. May,**No. 49, Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março.**COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY.****FIRE AND MARINE.**Fire Risks  
Authorized 1870Marine Risks  
Authorized 1868.

Agents for the Empire of Brazil

**Wilson Sons & Co. Limited.**

No. 2, Praça das Marinhas.

**ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.****LONDON AND LIVERPOOL.**Capital..... £2,000,000  
Accumulated Funds.... £5,245,104

Insures against the risk of fire, houses, goods and merchandise of every kind at reduced rates.

**John Moore & Co. agents.**

(Agents for Lloyd)

No. 8, Rua da Candelaria.

**NOBEL'S EXPLOSIVES Co. LIMITED.****Blasting Gelatine and Dynamite**

In cases of 50 lbs. ea., nett weight

Also patent Detonator caps and Bickford's patent fuse. For further information and price, apply to the

Agents for Brazil:

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Rio de Janeiro.**Shipping.****THOMAS NORTON'S**OLD REGULAR LINE OF SAILING PACKETS  
BETWEEN THE

UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL PORTS

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104 Wall St., New York.

**Steamships.****LIVERPOOL, BRAZIL AND RIVER PLATE MAIL STEAMERS.**

UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE

BELGIAN AND BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENTS.

**May Departures:****To New York:**

[Every Saturday]

Humboldt (Loading also in Santos) May 2nd  
Halle ..... 9th  
Albatross (Loading also in Santos) 16th  
Archimedes (Loading also in Santos) 23rd  
Strius ..... 30th**To Europe:**Albatross (Southampton Ant.) May 13th  
Lebanon (werp & London) " 21th**For Other Ports:**Harvey (River Plate) May 2nd  
Rochester " 19th**To Rio Grande Ports:**Gibson ..... Every  
Clifton ..... Wednesday  
Carnegie ..... Wednesday**LAMPORT & HOLT,**

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